

Remarks

Applicants thank Examiner Chandrakumar for the two telephone messages dated April 14, 2009, and for the subsequent telephone conversation April 15, 2009, and further for consideration of Applicants' previous remarks.

As the Examiner correctly pointed out in the Office Action dated April 23, 2009, Claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 15, and 42 are currently pending. In response to the Examiner's comments in said Office Action, Claim 1 has been amended to remove the proviso, which is no longer necessary in view of a previous amendment to Claim 1. In addition, and in order to advance prosecution, Claim 42 has been canceled. Applicants also respectfully request entry of a minor amendment to Claim 7, by which a small typographical error made during the previous amendment has been corrected.

In further response to the Examiner's remarks, the Examiner has indicated that the line number provided by applicant in the response dated March 4, 2008 indicating support for the proviso in claim 1 is incorrect. Applicants assert that removal of the proviso in the present amendment renders this issue moot.

Further, upon review of the record, Applicants note that the Reply dated February 8, 2009 is incorrectly listed as a response under 37 CFR 1.114. Applicants note that, as indicated by the content of the Reply, and as aptly recognized by the Examiner, the submission dated February 8, 2009 contained remarks and an amendment to the claims in response to the Examiners rejection dated August 18, 2008.

Lastly, Applicants thank Examiner for his kind consideration of the above remarks that specifically address the Examiner's rejections of Claims 1 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Because the current amendment is made by canceling a claim and complying with a requirement expressly set forth in a previous Office Action as specified in 37 CFR 1.116(b)(1),

applicants respectfully request entry of the current amendments and allowance of the claims as amended. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should any questions arise as a result of the submission provided herein, or at any point during examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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